

REMARKS

Claims 9-16 are pending in this application with claims 1-8 being cancelled and claims 9-16 being added by this response. The original claims have been replaced by new claims 9-16 which are directed to the claimed device. New claims 9-16 are added to more clearly define the present claimed invention.

Objection to the Drawings

The Drawings are objected to for failing to include legends on certain elements as well as show structural details. Amended drawings including legends are being filed with this amendment. Support for the amendments to the drawings can be found throughout the specification. Figure 1 has also been amended to correct a typographical error showing “the signal H IN” as the input to the reception circuit 7. Support for this amendment is provided on page 6, lines 10-14 of the specification. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to Figure 1 add no new matter to the application.

The reference labels FEN1 and FEN2 are clearly illustrated in Figure 2. The sentence referred to by the Examiner bridging page 6 and page 7 states that the signals discussed, including FEN1 and FEN2 are “as represented in the top part of Figure 2.” In view of this statement it is respectfully submitted that illustration of reference labels FEN1 and FEN2 in Figure 1 is not essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention as these reference labels are clearly shown in Figure 2 and fully discussed in the specification.

In view of the above remarks and attached amended drawings, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Abstract

The Abstract is objected to for form and phraseology. The abstract has been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner to remove objected to form and phraseology and be placed in the correct format. In view of the amendments to the Abstract it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Claims

Claim 7 is objected to because of certain informalities. Claim 7 has been cancelled and replaced with new claims 9-16. Claims 9-16 take into account the comments of the Examiner. In view of the cancellation of claim 7 and the replacement of the original claims with new claims 9-16, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 7 and 8 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 9-16. New claims 9-16 take into consideration the comments of the Examiner. In view of the cancellation of claim 7 and the replacement of the original claims with new claims 9-16, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Laflin (European Patent No. W/O 91/19358).

Claims 1-6 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 9-16. While original claims 1-6 were directed to a method, new claims 9-16 are directed to the inventive device of the present invention. The present claimed invention recites a device for synchronizing a sampling clock in the case of sampling digital signals. The device includes a phase lock loop which multiplies a signal at a given frequency by an integer number. The phase lock loop receives a reference signal at an input thereof and outputs a clock signal. A device is provided for formulating n analysis zones. The formulating device receives the clock signal at an input and outputs signals determining the n analysis zones. An analysis circuit compares, during a specified time, digital signals to signals determining the n analysis zones. The analysis circuit then counts by zone the results of the comparisons and tests the results of the comparisons in order to send either a phase correction signal to an input of a comparator, the other input receiving the reference signal and the output being connected to the phase lock loop input or a frequency correction circuit sent to the input of the phase lock loop to modify the integer number.

Laflin discloses a time based signal detector. The detector includes a receiver able to receive a plurality of signals, wherein more signals are received at peak time than off peak time. The detector determines if the signals are received in a first search mode and determines if the signals are not being received in a second search mode. During peak time the first search mode is activated and the second search mode is activated during off peak times. Laflin neither discloses nor suggests “an analysis circuit for comparing, during a specified time, digital signals to signals determining the n analysis zones” as in the present invention as claimed in new claim 9. Laflin also neither discloses nor suggests an analysis circuit for “counting by zone the results of the comparisons then testing the results of the comparisons in order to send either a phase correction signal to an input of a comparator, the other input receiving the reference signal and the output being connected to the PLL input or a frequency correction circuit sent to the input of the PLL to modify the integer number” as in the present claimed invention. Laflin is concerned with performing a search based upon the time of day.

In view of the above remarks and newly added claims, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
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